

Timothy E. Siegel
Intellectual Property Attorney

1868 Knappa Alley • Suite 208 • West Linn OR 97088-4844
Phone 503.650.7411 • Fax 503.650.9886
E-mail tes@intproplaw.com • www.intproplaw.com

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FAX

To: U.S.P.T.O.
Examiner James C. Dooley
Art Unit 3634
Fax: 571-273-8300 and
571-273-1679
Pages: (8 pages including this cover sheet)

Message: Please find the attached Supplemental Amendment for Serial No.:
10/782,010.

A duplicate copy is being sent to Examiner Dooley for his review, due to
time limitations.

Thank you.

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Claudia Degner

March 16, 2006

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It is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and early notice of allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy E. Siegel
 Timothy E. Siegel
 Attorney for Applicant
 Reg. No.: 37,442
 Tel. No.: (503) 650-7411
 Fax No.: (503) 650-9886

March 16, 2006

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Parrish, there is no common ground, as one would surely expect there to be if these references were from the same art. Moreover, these references are not combinable, as Robar shows nothing that would fit into the hitch holder of Parrish. The only possible way to fit these two references together is to work backwards from the disclosure of the present invention, which is of course, impermissible hindsight.

With respect to Claims 9 and 10, it appears to applicant that the trailer 150 is supported by the hitch rather than the other way around. Indeed the PTO's argument that the trailer 150 weighs less than 500 lbs depends on it being supported by the hitch. As trailer 150 is supported by two wheels as well as the hitch, however, it could weigh more than 500 or 666 lbs, as the hitch does not support the entire weight.

Applicant respectfully notes, with respect to U.S. Patent No. 6,854,630 (Anderson) and claim 10, that this patent does not show a hitch receiver "supported by a set of wheels adapted to facilitate the movement of the device from one location to another."

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC 103

With respect to amended claim 6, it is patentably distinct over the prior art at least because its base claim is patentably distinct over the prior art.

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REMARKS

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC 102(b)

Claim 1, although rejected under 35 USC 102(b) has been amended to include the limitation of claim 5, which was rejected under 35 USC 103. Accordingly, applicant will argue that amended claim 1 is patentably novel and nonobvious over the combination of Parrish and Robar. There are at least three reasons this is so. First, Parrish teaches neither the use of an assembly adapted to be anchored in a stud nor the method of anchoring the assembly in a stud. Second, Parrish does not teach the use of an assembly adapted to support an item as weighty as a bicycle rack. Third, there is no suggestion of combining Parrish and Robar, which are in different fields of endeavor.

Points one and two dovetail together, because the light-duty hitch holder of Parrish would not need to be anchored in a stud in order to hold a hitch alone, which is the only item that it is specifically disclosed to be adapted to hold. By teaching the use of a light-duty hitch holder Parrish teaches away from the present invention, which requires a hitch holder strong enough to hold a bicycle rack.

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